

Spatial and temporal variability of CO₂, N₂O and CH₄ fluxes from an urban park in Denmark

Xiao Bai¹, Tom Cripps¹, João Serra¹, Klaus Butterbach-Bahl^{1,2}, and Zhisheng Yao^{1,3}

¹Pioneer Center Land-CRAFT, Department of Agroecology, Aarhus University, Aarhus, 8000, Denmark

5 ²Institute for Meteorology and Climate Research, Atmospheric Environmental Research, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, 82467, Germany

³State Key Laboratory of Atmospheric Environment and Extreme Meteorology, Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, 100029, P. R. China

10 *Correspondence to:* Zhisheng Yao (zhishengyao@mail.iap.ac.cn)

Abstract. With the rapid worldwide increase in urbanization, urban green spaces are becoming increasingly important in regulating biogeochemical cycles and associated greenhouse gas (GHG) fluxes on regional and global scales. However, the existing data and research on the potential roles of urban green spaces remain limited. In this study, we conducted in situ measurements of nitrous oxide (N₂O) and methane (CH₄) fluxes, as well as ecosystem carbon dioxide (CO₂) respiration, at 56 sites in a temperate urban park with a hilly landscape during the vegetation-growing and frost-free period as well as the freeze–thaw period. Based on the arithmetic mean of all the measurements, the soil acted as a source of N₂O ($23.8 \pm 1.7 \mu\text{g N m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$) and a weak sink of CH₄ ($-0.26 \pm 2.14 \mu\text{g C m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$). Over the entire observation period, the mean ecosystem CO₂ respiration was calculated to be $228 \pm 18.5 \text{ mg C m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$. High spatial and temporal variability was observed for all three GHGs fluxes, with the coefficient of variation ranging from 45.6-259% for N₂O, 3154-4962% for CH₄ and 40.3-49.3% for CO₂, respectively. This variability was primarily associated with changes in soil and environmental factors, including vegetation structure, soil hydrothermal conditions, pH, and the availability of soil carbon and nitrogen. Moreover, random forest models combining the in situ measured data and landscape parameters demonstrated a high probability of identifying spatial patterns and hot or cold spots of GHG fluxes across this heterogeneous landscape. However, the models' performance was limited by the lack of high-resolution soil and vegetation data. Overall, our study provides valuable insights into scaling GHG fluxes in urban green spaces more effectively, enabling a more accurate assessment of how urbanization changes landscape fluxes.

1 Introduction

Atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O) are the three important greenhouse gases (GHGs), that significantly impact global warming and atmospheric chemistry (Ravishankara et al., 2009; IPCC, 2013; IPCC, 2021). Microbial processes in soil are major natural sources and sinks of these GHGs (Conrad, 1996; Smith et al., 2018). The strength of these biogenic sources and sinks varies greatly over space and time, and they are expected to respond to environmental and land use changes (van Delden et al., 2016; Feng et al., 2022). Due to rapid worldwide urbanization, soils of urban green spaces,

such as urban parks, residential gardens, street trees and small wooded patches, are becoming increasingly significant as sources or sinks of these GHGs (van Delden et al., 2018; Zhan et al., 2023). However, in order to determine the realistic global warming potential of soils of urban green spaces, the fluxes of all three GHGs must be accurately quantified and scaled up. Moreover, identifying the drivers of variability in the source/sink strength of these GHGs is also critical for predicting how soils of urban green spaces will respond to climate change in the future.

Compared with natural forests, grasslands, and managed agricultural systems, urban ecosystems may exhibit distinct biogeochemical C and N cycles due to the complex interactions between society and the environment (Kaye et al., 2006). These interactions may result in unique characteristics of CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O fluxes from urban green spaces. However, most previous studies on soil GHG fluxes have mainly focused on forests, grasslands, and agricultural ecosystems (Gao et al., 2022; Wangari et al., 2022; Liu et al., 2025; Walkiewicz et al., 2025). Existing studies on GHG fluxes in urban ecosystems have primarily examined CO₂ exchange; while urban soil N₂O and CH₄ fluxes remain poorly characterized (Jeong et al., 2024; Karvinen et al., 2024; Pan et al., 2024). Braun and Bremer (2018) reported that annual N₂O emissions from various fertilized urban green spaces were between 1.0 and 7.6 kg N ha⁻¹ yr⁻¹, comparable to emissions from intensive agriculture. Despite covering only 6.4% of the investigated land area, Kaye et al. (2004) suggested that urban lawns contribute up to 30% to regional N₂O budgets. A literature review by Zhan et al. (2023) revealed that soils of urban green spaces generally act as a sink for atmospheric CH₄, with an average annual uptake of 2.0 kg C ha⁻¹ yr⁻¹. However, this magnitude is relatively low compared to the annual CH₄ uptake by other non-urban soils and would decrease further with increased urbanization (Zhang et al., 2021). Although urban green spaces are often overlooked, existing studies indicate that they can influence regional and global climate change by increasing N₂O emissions and reducing soil CH₄ uptake.

Urbanization involves a transition from natural and managed ecosystems to urban green spaces, which alters environmental and soil conditions, such as soil texture, pH, nutrient availability and hydrothermal dynamics (Kaye et al., 2006; Edmondson et al., 2016; Zhan et al., 2023). These factors, acting alone or in combination, lead to high spatial and temporal variability in soil GHG fluxes. This variability limits the ability of researchers to constrain regional and global emission inventories. Currently, the uncertainty associated with most estimates of GHG fluxes from urban soils is often substantial, as the spatial and temporal variations of urban soil fluxes are not well understood. Furthermore, such high uncertainty hinders the identification of the primary drivers of spatiotemporal variability. Nonetheless, machine learning approaches such as random forest models can be used to effectively identify the key environmental factors driving the spatiotemporal variability of soil GHG fluxes. Many studies have used random forest models incorporating soil, climate and management factors to predict GHG flux dynamics in various ecosystems, such as grasslands (Barczyk et al., 2024), wetlands (Ying et al., 2025), and agricultural fields (Saha et al., 2021).

Denmark, which consistently ranks among the top three happiest nations in international well-being surveys, has a higher per capita provision of urban green spaces (61.7 m² per capita) than the global average (Statistics Denmark, 2021). This provides a valuable opportunity to examine the biogeochemical significance of urban green spaces for humans and the environment. Numerous studies have emphasized the various ecosystem services provided by urban green spaces, such as

environmental services (e.g., mitigating elevated urban heat and pollution), ecological services (e.g., sustaining urban wildlife habitats and biodiversity conservation), and social and human health benefits (Cardinali et al., 2024; Poulsen et al., 2024). However, no studies have yet reported measurements of in situ soil GHG fluxes from urban green spaces in Denmark. Therefore, the aim of this study was to quantify and characterize the spatial and temporal variability of soil N₂O, CH₄ and CO₂ fluxes, using a large number of sampling sites (n = 56) spread across an urban park in Aarhus, Denmark. Furthermore, we assessed the role of environmental and soil variables (e.g., topography, soil temperature, moisture, soil organic C, total N and pH) as the main drivers of these spatiotemporal patterns. We also used a machine learning-based upscaling framework to predict the potential GHG hot spots and cold spots.

2 Materials and methods

2.1 Study area

The study area is located within the 8.2-hectare Aarhus University Park (AU Park) in the center of Aarhus, Denmark (56.168°N, 10.203°E) (Fig. 1). The region has a temperate oceanic climate (Cfb, Köppen classification), which is characterized by warm and humid summers and cold and damp winters. The area's long-term average annual precipitation is 1046.3 mm, and its mean annual temperature is 8.8 °C (Danish Meteorological Institute, <http://www.dmi.dk>). Mean daily temperatures range from a minimum of -14.6 °C to a maximum of 26.4 °C, with frequent frost occurring in the winter months. AU Park is situated in a hilly landscape that is part of an old moraine valley extending from Katrinebjerg in Vejlbj in the north to the Bay of Aarhus in the east. The park area is dominated by grass-clover lawns that are occasionally mowed and interspersed with old oak trees (*Quercus robur*) that are over 80 years old. Two artificial ponds have been created in the lower part of the park and are fed by a small stream that comes from a spring inside the park.

To better understand the spatial and temporal variability of CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O fluxes, 56 sampling sites were selected across the AU Park using a stratified random sampling design. The sites were stratified based on their landscape position and proximity to ponds to effectively capture spatial heterogeneity in vegetation types, microtopography and soil moisture conditions. For example, more sampling sites were established in areas with apparent topographic changes, while fewer sampling sites were set up in areas with flat and homogeneous vegetation.

The soils in the study area are typically Luvisols (Adikhari et al., 2014), with a sandy loam to loamy texture in the topsoil that developed on moraine sand (Pedersen et al., 1989). However, since AU park is surrounded by university buildings established in the 1930s and a full soil survey was beyond the scope of this study, we assume that the park's soils have been affected by the incorporation of building materials and landscaping. This has resulted in altered soil profiles and soil properties compared to "natural" soils (Vasenev and Kuzyakov, 2018). No fertilizer was applied during the measurement periods.

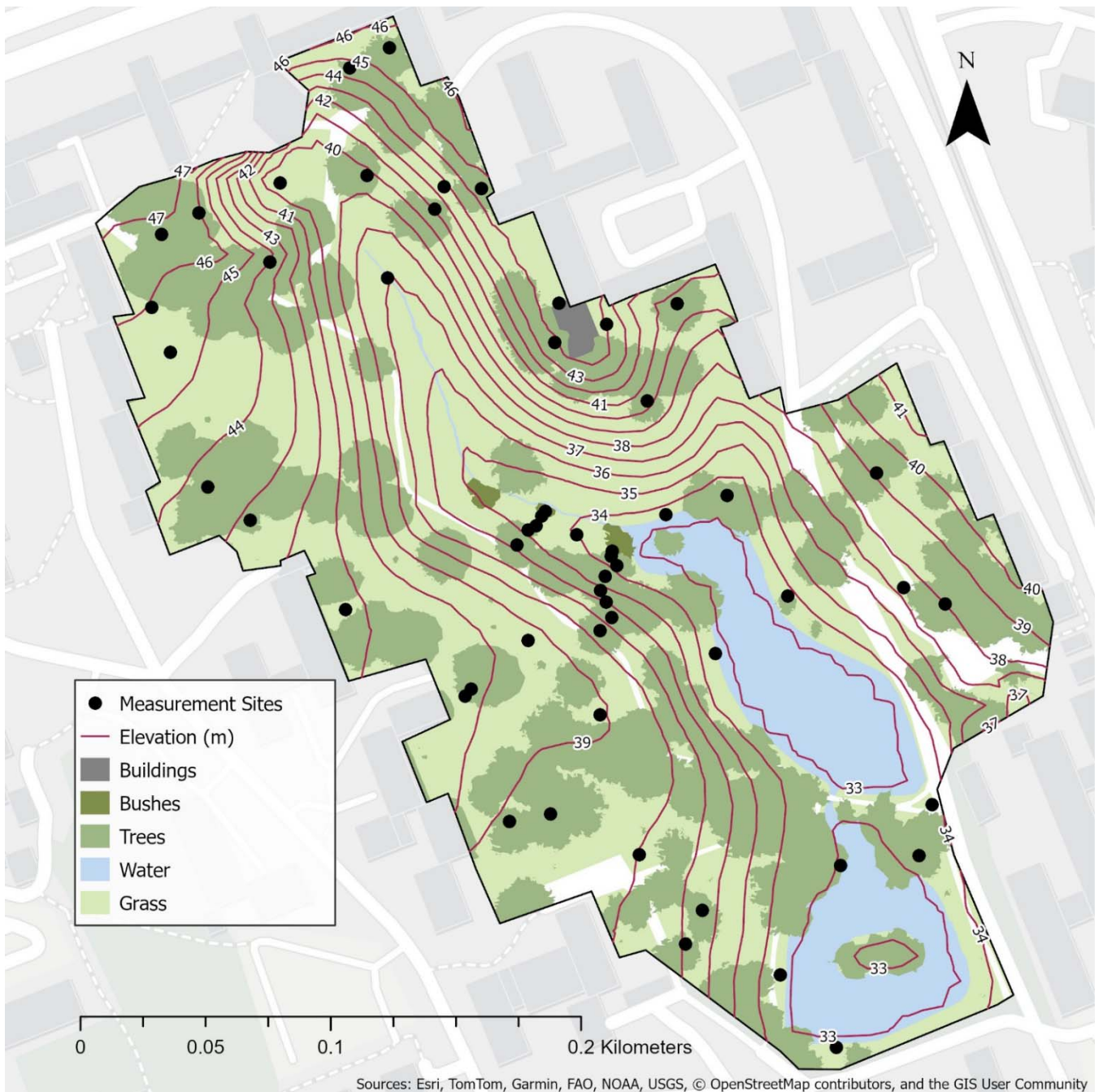


Figure 1: The map showing the land cover types and the locations of the sampling sites across a city park at Aarhus University.

2.2 Measurements of CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O fluxes

Fluxes of CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O were measured using the fast-closed chamber technique, as described by Hensen et al. (2013) and Daelman et al. (2025). The opaque chamber was 20 cm high and 37.5 cm in diameter. It contained a small fan inside to

mix the air in the chamber and a 1 m long, 1/8" wide ventilation tube at the top of the chamber for pressure equalization. Instead of using pre-installed ground frames, we carefully pushed the chamber, with its sharpened and polished bottom edge, about 1-2 cm directly into the ground for flux measurements. To ensure that each flux measurement was always taken from the same plot at the sampling site, we inserted a small metal plate (approximately 1 × 1 cm) into the soil and used a metal
105 detector to locate the plate and identify the site.

During the vegetation-growing and frost-free period (20 July to 9 November, 2023) and the freeze-thaw period (22 November to 7 December, 2023), flux measurements were performed across all 56 sampling sites, using two portable infrared gas analyzers: one measuring N₂O concentrations (LI-7820, LI-COR Biosciences, Lincoln, NE, USA) and the other measuring CH₄ and CO₂ concentrations (LI-7810, LI-COR Biosciences, Lincoln, NE, USA) (Fig. S1). Here, the start and end dates of the
110 vegetation-growing and frost-free period were determined based on daily mean air temperatures that consistently remained above 0 °C (Fig. 2). The freeze-thaw period was defined by the onset of repeated temperature fluctuations around 0 °C, resulting in alternating freezing and thawing conditions. Moreover, snow events occurred during the freeze-thaw period, with the cover depth ranging from approximately 0.1 to 13.1 cm. On each sampling day (8:00-16:00), we used a chamber closure time of 5-7 min, and we monitored the change in headspace GHG concentrations by circulating headspace air between the
115 chamber and the analyzers at a rate of approximately 200 ml min⁻¹. To minimize the potential impact of sampling, the sampling sites were monitored in a random order on each sampling date. Fluxes with units mass N m⁻² h⁻¹ for N₂O and mass C m⁻² h⁻¹ for CH₄ and CO₂ were then calculated based on the decrease or increase of headspace GHG concentrations over time using Eq. (1), which combines the ideal gas law and scaling variables:

$$F = \frac{dq}{dt} * \frac{P * V * M}{R * T * A} \quad (1)$$

120 Where dq/dt represents the rate of change of gas mixing ratios with time (h⁻¹), P is the atmospheric pressure (atm), V is the volume of sampling chamber (m³), M is the molar mass of the gas (mass mol⁻¹), R is the universal gas constant (m³ atm K⁻¹ mol⁻¹), T is the air temperature (K), and A is the area of sampling chamber (m²). The minimum detection limits of gas fluxes are 1.1 µg N m⁻² h⁻¹ for N₂O, 0.71 µg C m⁻² h⁻¹ for CH₄ and 4.1 mg C m⁻² h⁻¹ for CO₂, respectively. Note that the CO₂ emissions represent ecosystem respiration (ER-CO₂) because all above-ground biomass was trapped in the opaque chambers
125 during the measurements, so the measured changes in chamber headspace CO₂ concentration were due to both soil and plant respiration.

During the entire observation period, we conducted gas sampling at least once per week, unless interrupted by logistical (holidays) and operational (e.g., instrument breakdown) constraints. Specifically, from July 7 to September 1, 2023, we measured fluxes one to three times per week. For the rest of the observation periods, the sampling frequency was reduced
130 to once per week. In addition to measuring gas fluxes, a combined temperature and moisture HOB0 sensor (MX2307, Onset, Bourne, MA, USA) was used to simultaneously record soil temperature and volumetric water content at a depth of 5 cm in the direct vicinity of each sampling chamber site.

2.3 Soil sampling and properties

At the end of the experimental period, topsoil samples (0-10 cm) were collected from the center of each sampling site using a soil auger. Part of the soil samples were used to measure soil ammonium (NH_4^+) and nitrate (NO_3^-) concentrations. After extraction of fresh soil samples with 1M potassium chloride (KCl) solution in a soil:solution ratio of 1:2, soil NH_4^+ and NO_3^- concentrations were analyzed using an AA500 AutoAnalyzer (Seal Analytical) (Best, 1976, Crooke and Simpson, 1971). Part of the soil samples were dried (60°C, 48h) and sieved (<2 mm) for later analyses of soil total nitrogen (TN), soil organic carbon (SOC) and soil texture. TN was analyzed by dry combustion using a Vario MAX cube (Elementar Analysensysteme AG, Langenselbold, Germany) (Nyang'au et al., 2023). Soil pH was measured in a soil solution with deionized water (soil:solution=1:2) using a pH meter (3110 SET SM Pro, Xylem Analytics Germany GmbH) (Schofield and Taylor, 1955). The clay fraction (<2 μm) and silt fraction (2-20 μm) were quantified using the hydrometer method. Sand particles larger than 63 μm were separated through wet sieving and SOC was measured using high-temperature dry combustion (Schjønning et al., 2023). Besides, soil bulk density (BD) was measured using soil cores and weight measurements of oven-dried soil (105°C, 24h) (Alletto and Coquet, 2009).

2.4 Identification of hot and cold spots of GHG fluxes

In this study, the different subsections of the park were classified into three categories (hot spot, cold spot and normal spot) based on the relative magnitude of observed GHG fluxes.

The hot and cold spot thresholds were determined using a formula proposed by Wangari et al. (2023). This formula provides a context-sensitive approach to categorising GHG fluxes by adapting to local conditions rather than relying on fixed absolute thresholds. The classification method was based on the median and interquartile range of the data by Eq. (2) and Eq. (3):

$$\text{Hot spot threshold} = M + (Q3 - Q1) \quad (2)$$

$$\text{Cold spot threshold} = M - (Q3 - Q1) \quad (3)$$

where M is the median and $Q3 - Q1$ is the interquartile range of the measured daily GHG fluxes from individual sampling sites during the vegetation-growing and frost-free period. Due to the skewed distributions of ER-CO₂ and N₂O fluxes, the thresholds were such that there were no cold spots. Here, CH₄ fluxes can be positive or negative values, representing a source of atmospheric CH₄ or a sink of atmospheric CH₄, respectively. Hence, hot spots were areas of high CH₄ emissions, and cold spots were areas of high CH₄ uptake. Neither hot spots nor cold spots were classified as normal spots for GHG fluxes.

2.5 Hot and cold spot upscaling

The hot and cold spots of GHG fluxes observed in the AU Park were upscaled using a random forest (RF) model through a two-step approach (Fig. S2).

First, the counts of hot, cold, and normal spots varied substantially across the three gases, with the normal spots category being predominant. This imbalance could potentially introduce biased sample numbers of training data under different

categories, thus causing the RF model favoring the majority class and failing to accurately identify the minority classes. To
165 address this issue, the minority categories were oversampled during training. We used an ad hoc, iterative approach to identify
the most effective inflation factor of oversampling for each GHG (Tables S1-S3). Second, we used RF for classification with
potential predictors of GHG fluxes, including soil physio-chemical properties, vegetation and topography (Table S4). The
dataset was randomly divided into a training and internal cross-validation (80%) and external test (20%) sets using a stratified
random sampling method. The models were trained and internally validated via 10-fold cross-validation ($k=10$) performed on
170 the training dataset. We hyper-tuned the models for each GHG using a grid search (Tables S5) according to the log loss. Log
loss was selected as a measure of how well the predicted probabilities matched the actual class labels, considering both
prediction accuracy and confidence.

After hyper-tuning the model, the best performing model was used to rank the different predictors according to their
importance (Tables S6-S8). This model was then used for feature selection, during which the least essential variables were
175 removed stepwise according to their rank importance.

Lastly, the hot and cold spots were spatially upscaled for each GHG, using the final hyper-tuned model (after feature
selection) at a monthly time step with a spatial resolution of 0.4 m. To do so, we aggregated the average monthly observations,
while also interpolating soil physio-chemical and vegetation predictors using either ordinary kriging or inverse distance
weighting for dynamic and temporally static predictors (Table S4). We aggregated all gridded predictors and used the hyper-
180 tuned model to predict the total average classification probability. This created an average probability map showing the
likelihood that a location would be classified as a hot spot or cold spot.

2.6 Statistical analysis

The daily fluxes of CH_4 , N_2O and ER- CO_2 (ER: Ecosystem Respiration) for each sampling date were calculated as the mean
of all observed fluxes from the 56 sampling sites. The total cumulative fluxes of CH_4 , N_2O and ER- CO_2 for each sampling site
185 over a given period (e.g., vegetation-growing and frost-free period) were determined using linear interpolation between
measurement dates. The coefficient of variation (CV) was calculated as the ratio of the standard deviation (SD) to the mean
(μ) of the flux measurements, expressed as a percentage ($CV = SD / \mu \times 100$). For spatial variability, the CVs were calculated
using the cumulative GHG fluxes for individual sampling sites across the vegetation-growing and frost-free period. With
regard to temporal variability, the CVs were calculated using daily mean GHG fluxes. The global warming potential (GWP)
190 in the 100-year time horizon of soil N_2O and CH_4 fluxes was calculated in CO_2 -equivalent units using Eq. (4) (IPCC, 2021):

$$GWP = 273 \times N_2O + 27 \times CH_4 \quad (4)$$

To assess the key environmental and soil factors that control the spatial and temporal variation of GHG fluxes, we identified
significant (p -value < 0.05) relationships between the GHG fluxes and different variables, specifically site properties, such as
soil temperature and moisture, pH, BD, soil texture, TN, and SOC. We tested linear, non-linear and multiple regression models
195 based on the stepwise selection of the drivers. For soil pH, we used binned/grouped linear regression. This approach involves
dividing the independent variable into discrete bins, calculating the mean of both the independent and dependent variables

within each bin and then performing a linear regression on the averaged data (McArdle, 1988). All statistical analyses were performed using R software (version 4.3.2).

3. Results

200 3.1 Environmental conditions

The length of the observation period was 141 days. Out of those days, 89 had precipitation $> 0.2 \text{ mm day}^{-1}$, totaling 452.6 mm. Over the entire observation period, the mean soil moisture (measured as volumetric water content [VWC]) varied between 21% and 40% (Fig. 2); while across the 56 sampling sites, the mean VWC ranged from 20% to 51%. The mean air temperature ranged from -9.3°C to 20.4°C , with temperatures $< 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ starting in November. Soil temperature showed a comparable
205 seasonality to air temperature, with values ranging from -0.15°C to 25.5°C (Fig. 2). Soil properties across the 56 sampling sites exhibited spatial differences (Table S9). For example, SOC ranged from 17-93 g C kg^{-1} soil dry weight [SDW], TN ranged from 1-6 g N kg^{-1} SDW, the C:N ratio ranged from 10-19, BD ranged from 0.6-1.5 g cm^{-3} and pH ranged from 5-8.

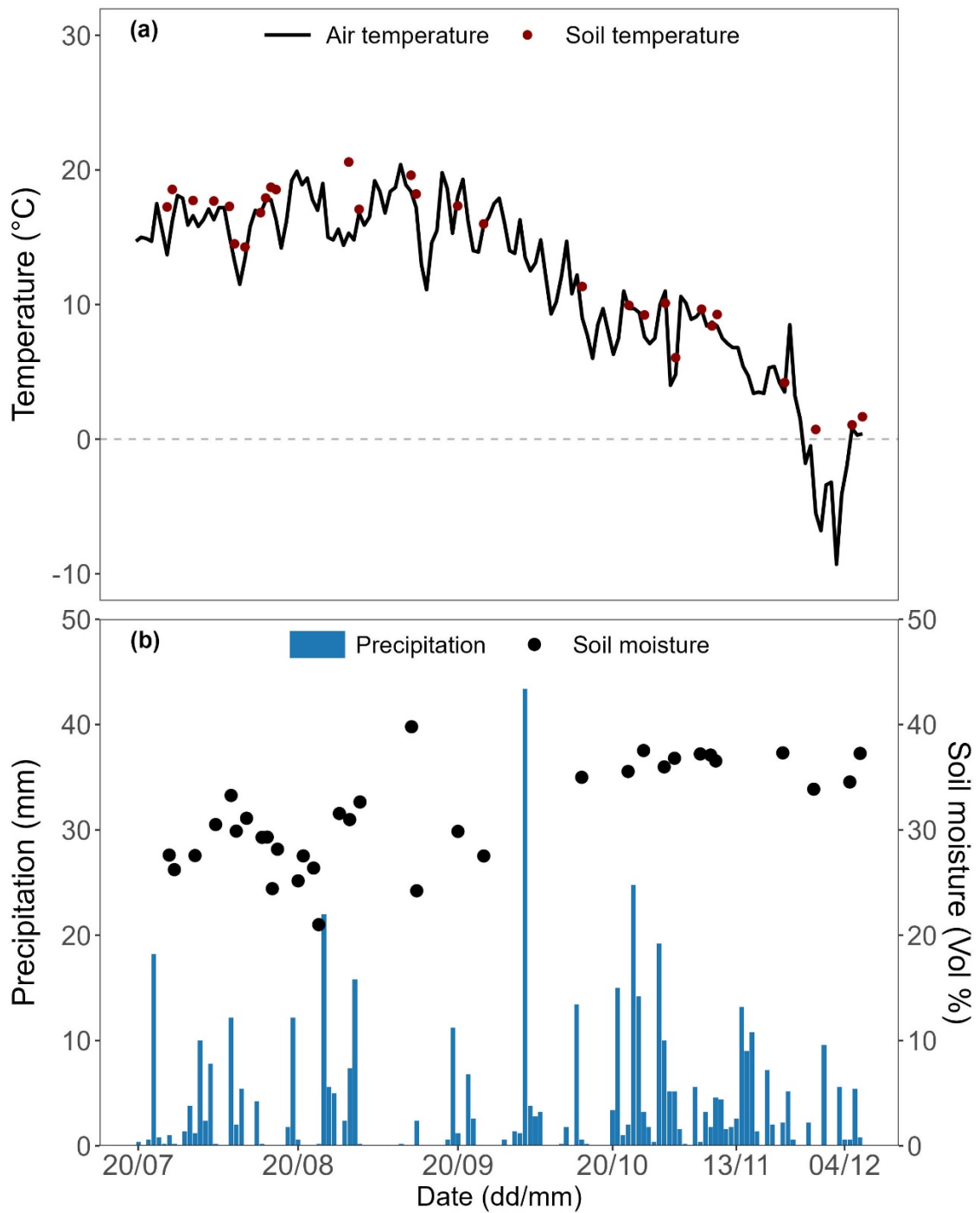
3.2 Temporal variability of N_2O , CH_4 , and CO_2 fluxes

Figures 3a, b, and c illustrate the daily fluxes of N_2O , CH_4 , and ER- CO_2 from the 56 sampling sites over the vegetation-growing
210 and frost-free period, as well as the freeze-thaw period.

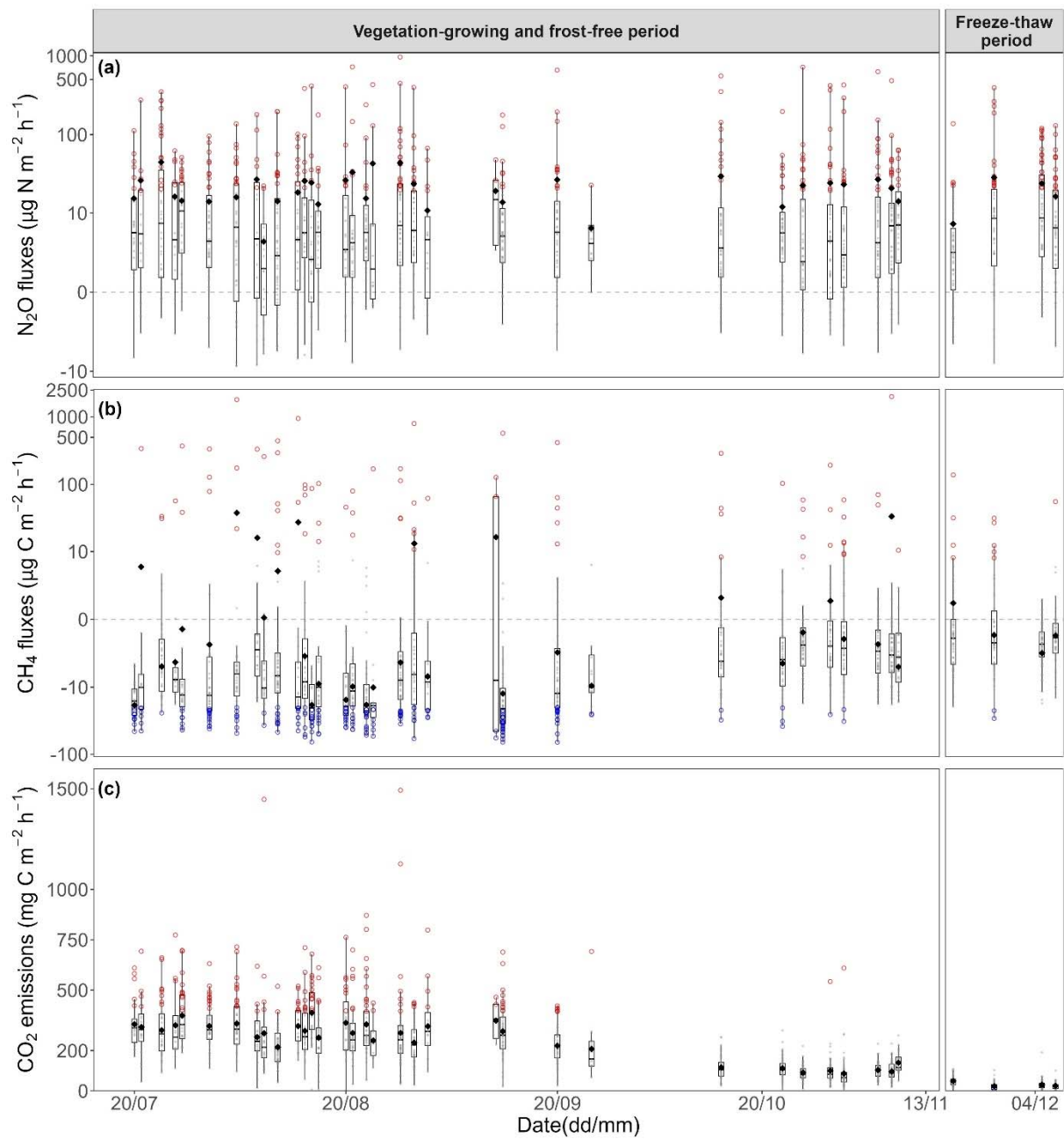
N_2O fluxes during the entire observation period ranged from 6.3 to 47.0 $\mu\text{g N m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$, with a mean, calculated with all the measurements, of $23.8 \pm 1.7 \mu\text{g N m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$, and a median of $23.6 \mu\text{g N m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ (Figs. 3a and S3a). Higher N_2O emissions, or N_2O hot spots ($\geq 19.3 \mu\text{g N m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$), were recorded during both the vegetation-growing and frost-free period and the freeze-thaw period. The temporal CV for N_2O fluxes was 45.6% during the measurement period.

215 CH_4 fluxes ranged from -18.7 to $+37.8 \mu\text{g C m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ during the entire observation period, with a mean of $-0.26 \pm 2.14 \mu\text{g C m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$, and a median of $-1.95 \mu\text{g C m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ (Figs. 3b and S3b). Higher CH_4 emissions, or CH_4 hot spots ($\geq 7.4 \mu\text{g C m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$) were observed during both measurement periods. CH_4 cold spots ($\leq -20.1 \mu\text{g C m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$) or higher CH_4 uptake occurred during the vegetation-growing and frost-free period. Overall, the CV for temporal variability of CH_4 fluxes during the entire observation period was 4962%.

220 ER- CO_2 emissions during the measurement period ranged from 23.0 to 387.7 $\text{mg C m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$, with a mean of $228.0 \pm 18.5 \text{ mg C m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$, and a median of $226.0 \text{ mg C m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ (Figs. 3c and S3c). Unlike N_2O and CH_4 fluxes, CO_2 hot spots ($\geq 392.2 \text{ mg C m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$) were only recorded during the vegetation-growing and frost-free period. The CV for temporal variability of ER- CO_2 emissions was 49.3% during the entire observation period.



225 **Figure 2: Seasonal variations in daily mean air (source Danish Meteorological Institute, 2025) and soil (5 cm) temperature (a) and daily precipitation (source Danish Meteorological Institute, 2025) and mean volumetric soil (0-5 cm) water content (b) over the entire observation period from July to December, 2023.**



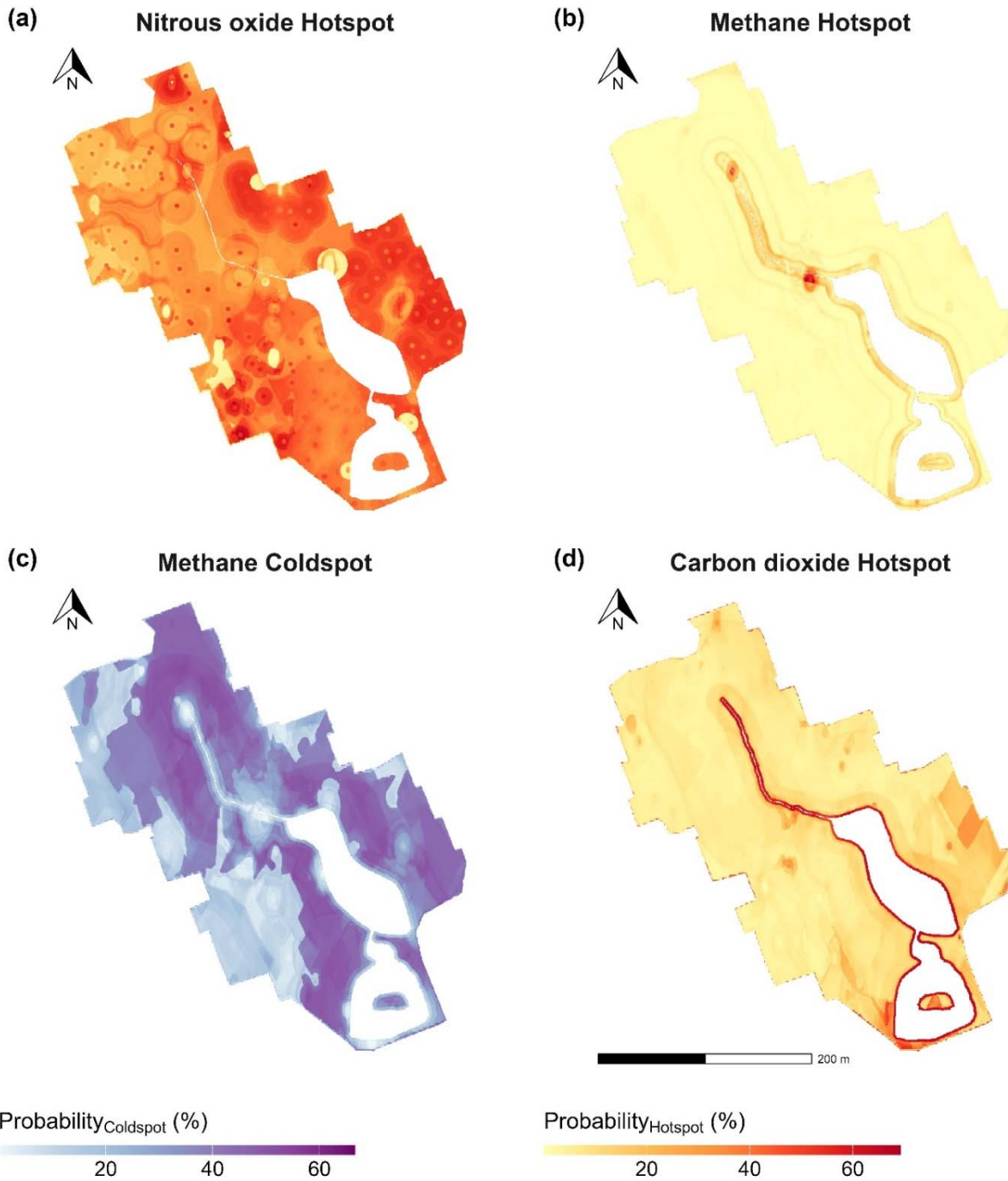
230 **Figure 3: Fluxes of soil nitrous oxide (N₂O) (a), methane (CH₄) (b) and ecosystem (i.e. soil and plant) respiration (CO₂) (c) over the**
 235 **entire observation period from July to December, 2023. The vegetation-growing and frost-free period spans from 20 July to 21**
November, 2023, while the freeze-thaw period spans from 22 November to 31 December, 2023. In panels a-c, the black solid diamonds
and lines inside the box represent the mean and median value, respectively. The box borders represent the 75th and 25th percentiles,
and the whisker caps represent the 95th and 5th percentiles. The red and blue circle points represent hot spots and cold spots,
respectively, and grey circle points represent neither hot spots nor cold spots of observation data. The definition of hot and cold
spots can be found in the Materials and Methods section. To improve visualization across the wide range of flux values, the y-axes
are displayed using a pseudo-logarithmic scale; this transformation was applied only to the y-axes for visual clarity and does not
affect the original data values or statistical interpretation.

3.3 Spatial variability of N₂O, CH₄, and CO₂ fluxes

The cumulative N₂O fluxes over the vegetation-growing and frost-free period ranged from -0.01 to 9.96 kg N ha⁻¹ for all 56
240 sampling sites (Table S9). During the freeze-thaw period, the fluxes ranged from -0.01 to 0.74 kg N ha⁻¹. On average, the soils
at our sampling sites acted as a significant net source of atmospheric N₂O, with a mean of 0.57 ± 0.20 kg N ha⁻¹. The CV
between the different sampling sites was 259%. The RF analysis showed that spatial variability in N₂O fluxes could be modeled
with an overall performance of 87% using the variables SOC, silt content, distance to the nearest tree, soil temperature and
grass height (Table S10 and Fig. S4). The model displayed no probability of cold spots in the study areas and 54% probability
245 of hot spots (Table S10). Spatial variations in N₂O fluxes, as obtained through observations and predictions, showed a higher
probability of hotspots close to the artificial ponds and a lower probability in the northeast section of the park (Figs. 4a and
S5a).

Cumulative CH₄ fluxes over the vegetation-growing and frost-free period showed contrasted differences among the
sampling sites (Table S9). That is, a sink of atmospheric CH₄ was observed at 45 out of 56 sampling sites, with cumulative
250 CH₄ uptake ranging in magnitude from 0.04 to 0.83 kg C ha⁻¹. The remaining 11 sampling sites were net sources of atmospheric
CH₄, with cumulative CH₄ emissions ranging from 0.01 to 5.44 kg C ha⁻¹. The CV between the different uptake sites was 60.5 %
and the CV between the different source sites was 140.3%, both were lower than the CV of 3154 % between all the sampling
sites. By aggregating cumulative CH₄ and N₂O fluxes, the non-CO₂ GWP for all sampling sites ranged from -25.3 to 4272.8
kg CO₂-eq ha⁻¹ (Table S9), with the spatial CV value 261%. Based on the variables soil moisture, SOC, soil temperature, TN
255 and distance to the nearest body of water, the RF model showed good predictive power for spatial variability of CH₄ fluxes,
with the overall performance of 91% (Fig. S4b and Table S10). Moreover, the model was more accurate in predicting cold
spots of CH₄ uptake (78%) than hot spots of CH₄ emissions (54%) (Table S10). The spatial observations and predictions for
our study areas showed a higher probability of hot spots closer to the artificial ponds and streams, particularly at two specific
sites (Figs. 4b and S5b). However, the areas immediately adjacent to the water's edge were not necessarily identified as either
260 hot spots or cold spots. Areas draining toward the artificial ponds showed the highest overall probability of becoming cold
spots of CH₄ uptake over time, particularly in the northeastern and southern sections (Figs. 4c and S5c).

During the vegetation-growing and frost-free period, the cumulative ER-CO₂ emissions for the 56 sampling sites
ranged from 0.7- 10.2 Mg C ha⁻¹, with a mean of 5.48 ± 0.30 Mg C ha⁻¹. The CV between the different sampling sites was
40.3%. Using the variables soil temperature, distance to the nearest body of water, soil moisture and clay content, the RF
265 model achieved a 67% performance for hot spot detection, but it did not show any cold spot probability (Fig. S4c and Table
S10). Similar to the spatial variability of CH₄ emission hot spots, the frequency of observed high emissions and RF model
showed a higher probability of ER-CO₂ emission hot spots closer to the artificial ponds and streams (Figs. 4d and S5d).



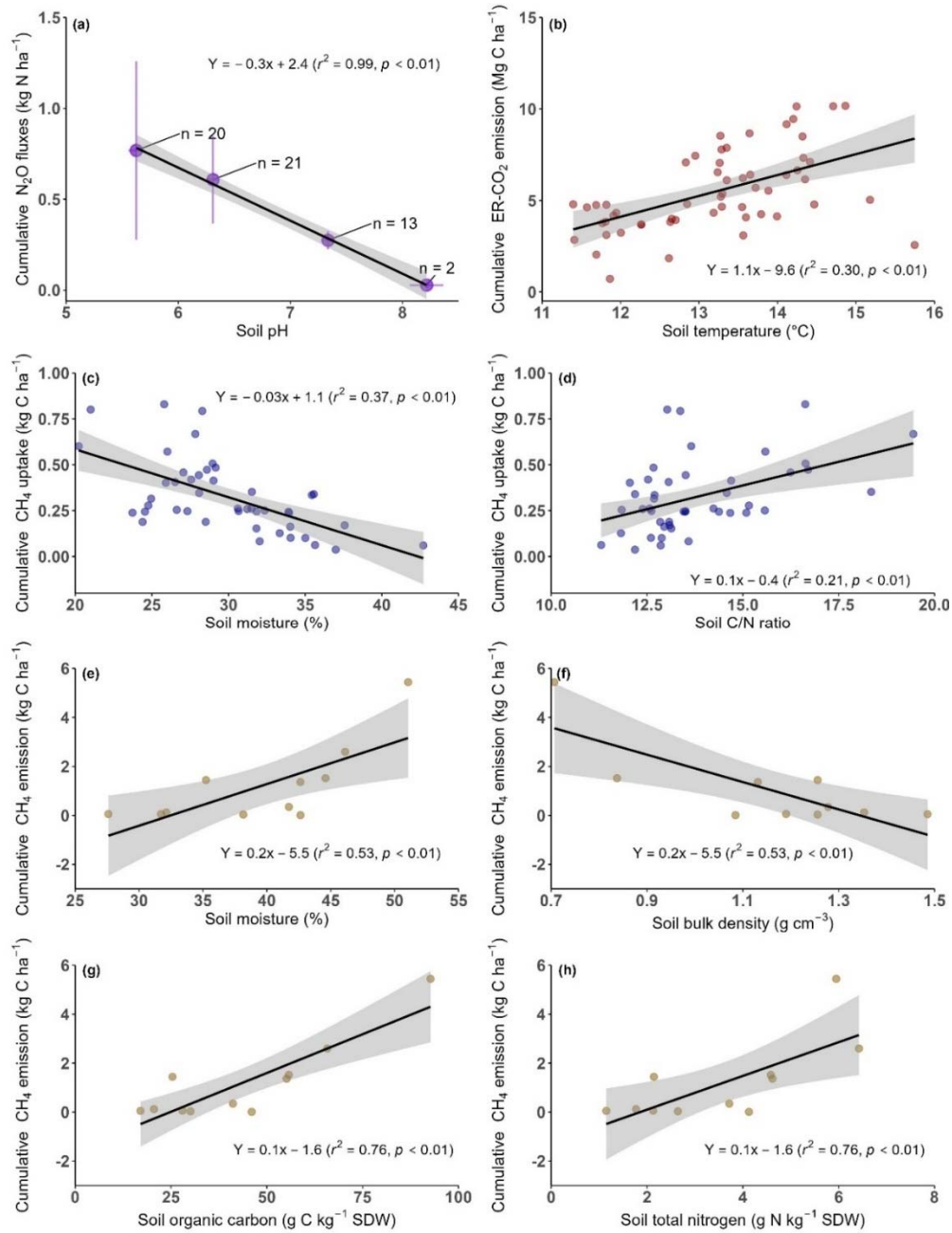
270 **Figure 4:** This map shows the area with the highest overall mean probability of being classified as nitrous oxide (N_2O) emission hot spots(a), methane (CH_4) emission hot spots(b), CH_4 uptake cold spots(c) and carbon dioxide (CO_2) emission hot spots(d). The definition of hot and cold spots can be found in the Materials and Methods section. In panel a, the overlaid dots indicate the exact locations of the tree trunks.

3.4 Key factors driving the spatiotemporal variability

275 Although the simple regression analysis did not show a significant relationship between N₂O fluxes and environmental and soil variables, the RF model, which considers the interactions between the variables, could explain 80% of the variance in N₂O fluxes (Fig. S4 and Table S10). Across the 56 sampling sites, the cumulative N₂O fluxes were also negatively correlated with soil pH (Fig. 5a).

280 To clearly show the key factors controlling the magnitude of CH₄ fluxes, we separated the observed data into CH₄ uptake rates and CH₄ emissions (both are expressed as positive values). Across the different uptake sites, the cumulative CH₄ uptake rates were negatively correlated with soil moisture, while positively correlated with the C/N ratio (Fig. 5c and 5d). During the measurement period, the daily CH₄ uptake rates also showed a negative relationship with soil moisture (Fig. 6a). Across the different source sites, the cumulative CH₄ emissions were positively correlated with soil moisture (Fig. 5e), SOC (Fig. 5g) and TN (Fig. 5h), while negatively correlated with soil BD (Fig. 5f). A multiple regression analysis of all the CH₄ data showed that cumulative CH₄ fluxes were significantly controlled by the combined effect of soil moisture (SM), soil temperature (ST) and SOC (i.e., cumulative CH₄ fluxes = $-5.77 + 0.10SM + 0.17ST + 0.01SOC$; $r^2 = 0.54$, $p < 0.001$).

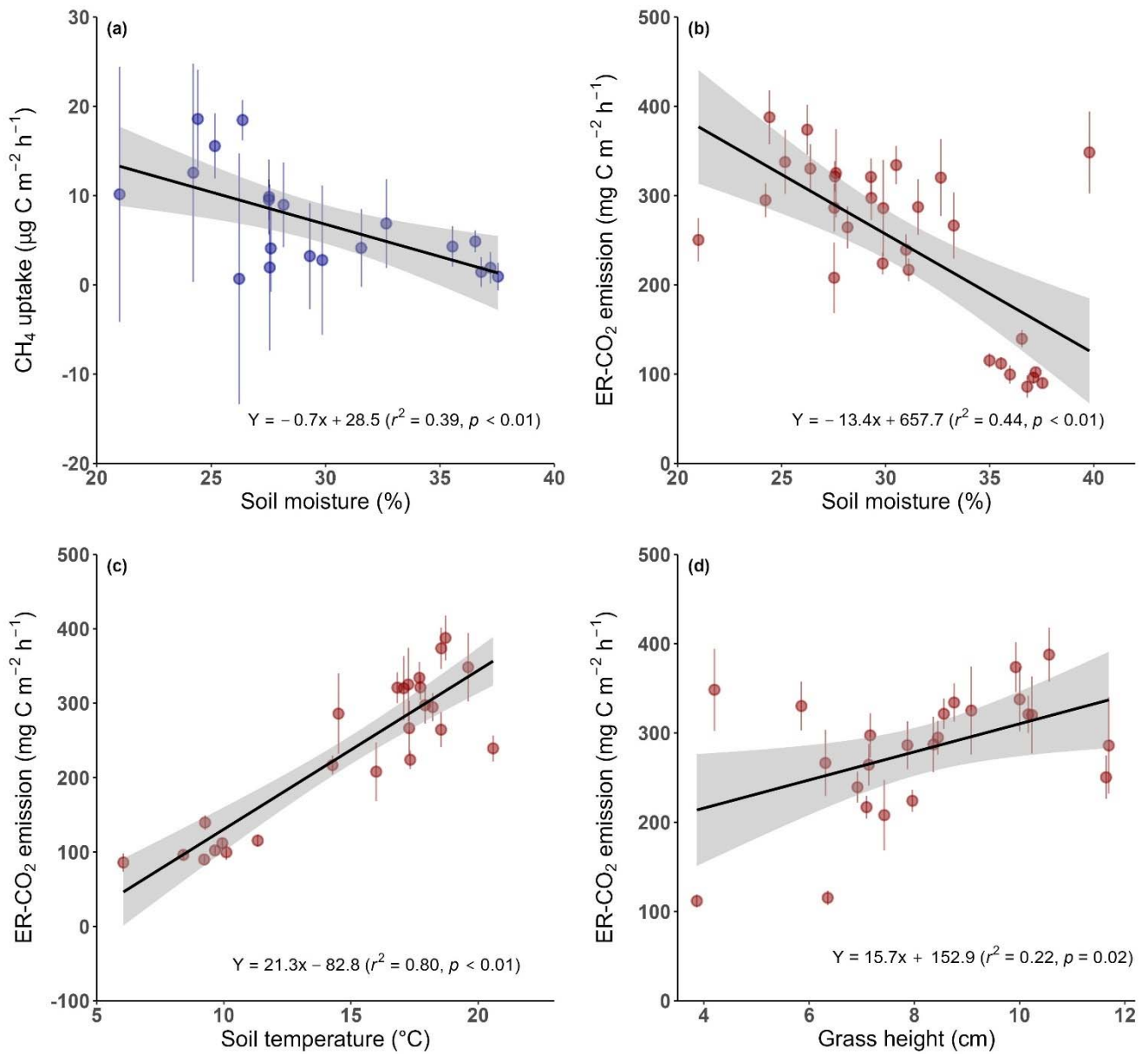
285 Soil temperature showed significantly positive effects on both spatial and temporal variations of ER-CO₂ emissions (Fig. 5b and 6c). In addition, the daily ER-CO₂ emissions during the observation period were negatively correlated with soil moisture (Fig. 6b) and positively correlated with grass height (Fig. 6d).



290

Figure 5: The relationships between cumulative nitrous oxide (N₂O) fluxes and soil pH (a), between cumulative ecosystem respiration (ER-CO₂) emissions and soil temperature (b), between cumulative methane (CH₄) uptake rates and soil moisture (c) and soil C/N ratio (d), between cumulative CH₄ emissions and soil moisture (e), soil bulk density (f), soil organic carbon (g), and soil total nitrogen (h) across all the sampling sites. In panel a, soil pH was binned at a step width of 1 (i.e. 5.0-6.0, 6.0-7.0, 7.0-8.0 and >8.0), and points are given as mean values ± standard error, with numbers referring to the number of observations. SDW: soil dry weight. The shaded area of each panel represents the 95% confidence band.

295



300 **Figure 6:** The relationships between methane (CH₄) uptake rates and soil moisture (b), between ecosystem respiration (ER-CO₂) emissions and soil moisture (b), soil temperature (c) and grass height (d) across the vegetation-growing and frost-free period. Points are given as mean values \pm standard error across all the sampling sites at the same measurement time. The shaded area of each panel represents the 95% confidence band.

4. Discussion

Urban green spaces play an important role in improving the quality of life and developing a sustainable urban environment (Giannico et al., 2021; Semeraro et al., 2021; Jabbar et al., 2022). However, many urban green spaces in both developed and developing countries are under-represented in global C and N cycling studies. As global urbanization continues to expand, this lack of representation contributes to high uncertainties in regional and national GHG budgets (Gao and O'Neill, 2020). In our study, we assessed soil GHG fluxes from an urban park in the Danish city of Aarhus during the vegetation-growing and frost-free period, as well as the freeze-thaw period. Our goal was to improve our understanding of the spatial and temporal patterns of these fluxes and to identify their key drivers. In addition, we aimed to demonstrate the necessity of addressing spatial variability in studies of GHG fluxes from urban green areas.

4.1 Temporal and spatial controls on soil N₂O fluxes in urban park environments

Over the entire observation period, the mean of all measurements resulted in an average daily N₂O emission of 23.8 $\mu\text{g N m}^{-2} \text{h}^{-1}$ for the urban park. This value falls within the range (-1.1 to 84.5 $\mu\text{g N m}^{-2} \text{h}^{-1}$) reported for urban green spaces in China, Singapore, Australia, Europe and North America (Maggiotto et al., 2000; Livesley et al., 2010; Davis et al., 2015; LeMonte et al., 2016; Braun and Bremer, 2018; Riches et al., 2020; Stefane et al., 2021; Künnemann et al., 2023). However, our mean N₂O emissions in urban park environments are relatively higher than the reported ranges (0.5-23.4 $\mu\text{g N m}^{-2} \text{h}^{-1}$) for natural grasslands and forests (Groffman et al., 2006; Groffman et al., 2009; Groffman and Pouyat, 2009; Chen et al., 2014; Zhang et al., 2014; Ni and Groffman, 2018; Guo et al., 2022; Chen et al., 2023; Wang et al., 2025). These results corroborate previous findings that urbanization generally increases soil N₂O emissions compared to natural terrestrial ecosystems (Zhan et al., 2023). In this study, our observed N₂O emissions exhibit significant temporal and spatial variability, with CV values ranging from 45.6% to 259%. This high variability is consistent with patterns reported in other studies of forests, grasslands and agricultural systems (Kiese et al., 2003; Yao et al., 2009; van Delden et al., 2018; Wangari et al., 2022; Daelman et al., 2025). The highly dynamic nature of N₂O fluxes is primarily because soil N₂O fluxes are regulated by numerous abiotic and biotic factors that either fuel or restrain microbial processes (nitrification and denitrification) at various spatial and temporal scales (Butterbach-Bahl et al., 2013). For example, our regression analysis revealed a significant negative relationship between cumulative N₂O emissions and soil pH (Fig. 5a). The optimal pH range for denitrifiers is often reported to be 6.5-8.0 (Knowles, 1981; Šimek and Cooper, 2002). Thus, any increase above the mean soil pH observed in our study (pH 6.37) should theoretically increase N₂O production. However, at low soil pH levels, the reduction of N₂O to N₂ by N₂O reductase (nosZ) is substantially reduced, either due to the direct effect of pH on the assembly of N₂O reductase or due to shifts in the soil denitrification community toward denitrifiers lacking the nosZ gene (Čuhel et al., 2010; Xu et al., 2020). In other words, the partitioning of N₂O and N₂ during denitrification is affected by soil pH, with a higher proportion of N₂O present in acidic conditions. On the contrary, microbial activity may increase at higher pH values, leading to higher N₂O emissions. However, this may not be the case, as the N₂O yield during denitrification decreases with increasing pH (Čuhel et al., 2010).

335 For the sites we investigated, the high spatiotemporal variability in soil N₂O fluxes cannot be solely explained based
on soil moisture status and/or temperature changes. Nevertheless, distinct “hot moments” of soil N₂O emissions were observed
during the freeze-thaw period. These observations suggest that soil N₂O fluxes are sensitive to short-term changes in
environmental factors, such as soil temperature changes, during the freeze-thaw period. Other studies have reported similar
340 pulses of N₂O fluxes during freeze-thaw periods in boreal and temperate ecosystems, including forests, grasslands and
agricultural fields (Butterbach-Bahl et al., 2002; Luo et al., 2013; Wagner-Riddle et al., 2017). However, our observation of
this phenomenon in urban green spaces is novel. Pulses of N₂O emissions during freeze-thaw periods are generally attributed
to the close coupling of microbial mineralization, nitrification, and denitrification, occurring under conditions in which the
surface soil is close to moisture saturation, and increased availability of easily degradable C and N substrates. This can be due
to the death of soil microbes from frost, as suggested by De Bruijn et al. (2009).

345 Although our linear regression analysis did not reveal a significant relationship between soil temperature and N₂O
fluxes, the RF model identified soil temperature as one of the most influential predictors (Fig. S4). Nevertheless, the RF model
showed that total N content is not one of the key predictors of N₂O fluxes, while SOC is a significant predictor. SOC has been
considered as a major constituent of soil organic matter (SOM). Higher SOM levels provide more essential macro- and micro-
nutrients, improving microbial activities and associated N₂O production (Butterbach-Bahl et al., 2013). Despite the limited
350 ability of the RF model to accurately classify N₂O emission hot spots (Fig. 4a), the spatial probability maps indicate that large
portions of the park show a moderate likelihood ($39 \pm 13\%$) of becoming hot spots under specific conditions. This implies that
hot spots are not confined to fixed locations but instead emerge dynamically in response to transient environmental triggers,
such as freeze-thaw events or soil saturation. To improve hot spot prediction, we emphasize the need for higher-frequency flux
measurements, particularly during periods of rapid environmental change and finer resolution of soil data
355 (Helfenstein et al., 2024).

4.2 Spatiotemporal patterns and environmental controls of CH₄ fluxes from urban park soils

During the observation period, the soils in the urban park were predominantly a weak sink for atmospheric CH₄ ($-0.26 \mu\text{g C m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ on average over all measurements), though they sporadically changed from a sink to a source after rainfall events. This
sink-to-source dynamic, driven by soil water status, is consistent with observations from an urban lawn in Australia (van
360 Delden et al., 2018). Moreover, the magnitude of the mean CH₄ fluxes observed in our study was at the lower end of the
reported uptake rates from urban green spaces in other European countries and the USA (Groffman and Pouyat, 2009; Bezyk
et al., 2022; Trémeau et al., 2024). In contrast, previous studies have reported that soil CH₄ fluxes in natural forests and
grasslands ranged from -3.9 to $-168.7 \mu\text{g C m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ (Goldman et al., 1995; Groffman et al., 2009; Groffman and Pouyat, 2009;
Czóbel et al., 2010; Chen et al., 2014; Zhang et al., 2014; Ni and Groffman, 2018; Chen et al., 2023; Wang et al., 2025). These
365 findings suggest that urbanization generally reduces soil CH₄ uptake compared to natural terrestrial ecosystems (Zhan et al.,
2023).

Regression analysis revealed a strong negative correlation between CH₄ uptake rates and soil moisture. However, no significant relationship was observed between CH₄ uptake rates and soil temperature. These results suggest that soil moisture is the dominant environmental driver of the temporal variability of CH₄ fluxes compared to temperature in this urban park. Similar results have been observed in many studies of urban green spaces or natural forests and grasslands (van Delden et al., 2018; Liu et al., 2019). Generally, soil moisture affects both soil gas diffusion and the microbial populations that regulate the CH₄ dynamics (Potter et al., 1996; Smith et al., 2018; Bezyk et al., 2023). At high soil moisture contents, CH₄ uptake is usually limited by reduced diffusivity into the soil. Accordingly, these results suggest that future studies require high-temporal-resolution soil hydrological observations to better trace the dynamics of CH₄ fluxes.

In this study, cumulative CH₄ fluxes for all 56 sampling sites were used to analyze the spatial variability (Table S9). The results showed pronounced differences in cumulative CH₄ fluxes among the sampling sites, i.e., CH₄ emissions occurred in 11 of the 56 sites. These significant CH₄ emissions are likely due to the predominance of soil water saturation and the accumulation of C substrates in topsoils, as sites functioning as net sources of CH₄ to the atmosphere were positioned closer to artificial ponds and streams within the urban park. Our regression analysis revealed that soil moisture was positively correlated with cumulative CH₄ emissions, while negatively correlated with cumulative CH₄ uptake (Figs. 5c and 5e). The opposite response of cumulative CH₄ fluxes to soil moisture status between source and sink sites is likely due to the fact that higher soil moisture contents suppress gas diffusion and increase the volume of anaerobic soil. This dual effect suppresses methanotrophy and stimulates methanogenesis, thereby reducing CH₄ oxidation and promoting CH₄ production (McLain and Ahmann, 2007; Praeg et al., 2014). Moreover, the cumulative CH₄ emissions increased with increasing SOC and TN. This corroborates previous findings that SOC and TN are important factors in controlling ecosystem CH₄ emissions because they can provide C and N substrates to methanogens, and thus, enhancing their activities and associated CH₄ production (Ma et al., 2020; Zhao and Zhuang, 2024). We further observed that the studied sites with higher SOC values typically exhibited relatively low BD values. This inverse relationship could explain why cumulative CH₄ emissions decreased as BD increased in our study (Fig. 5f). Additionally, the cumulative CH₄ uptake was strongly and positively correlated with soil C/N ratios. Lower C/N ratios in urban soils likely support higher rates of N transformation, particularly mineralization and nitrification. However, increased soil N availability can inhibit methanotrophic activities and associated CH₄ oxidation (Steinkamp et al., 2000; Zhan et al., 2023). Considering all 56 sampling sites together, the spatial variability of CH₄ fluxes was significantly regulated by the combined effects of soil moisture, temperature and SOC. Furthermore, these three variables were also included in the RF model to predict CH₄ hot and cold spots. Previous studies have similarly reported that soil moisture, temperature and C availability are the main drivers shaping the spatial patterns of CH₄ fluxes across heterogeneous landscapes (West et al., 1999; Olefeldt et al., 2013; Kaiser et al., 2018; Yu et al., 2019).

4.3 Controls of ecosystem respiration (CO₂) emissions in urban park environments

In this study, the average ER-CO₂ emissions were 228 mg C m⁻² h⁻¹ when using the arithmetic mean of all measurements. Our observed ER-CO₂ emissions are consistent with the reported range (142-298 mg C m⁻² h⁻¹) for open lawns, treed lawns, and

400 urban woodlands in France (Künneemann et al., 2023), but higher than the emissions recorded in urban woodlands (54-100 mg C m⁻² h⁻¹) by Groffman et al. (2009) and Chen et al. (2013) and natural grasslands (65-82 mg C m⁻² h⁻¹) by Wang et al. (2025). Over the entire observation period, the variability in ER-CO₂ emission was negatively correlated with soil moisture and positively correlated with soil temperature and grass height (Fig. 6b-d). Ecosystem respiration depends heavily on plant respiration and microbial decomposition. Grass height is a proxy for aboveground biomass and, consequently, exerts a positive
405 effect on ER-CO₂ emissions. This positive correlation with aboveground biomass has been well documented in previous studies (Ding et al., 2007; Yao et al., 2013). High levels of soil moisture can restrict the availability of O₂ within the soil matrix, thereby creating conditions conducive to anoxic processes, and resulting in reduced CO₂ emissions (Hao et al., 2025). Moreover, the SOC decomposition process is constrained by anoxia, which restricts the release of nutrients necessary for CO₂ formation (Keiluweit et al., 2017). This interpretation was indirectly supported by our observations that cumulative CH₄ fluxes
410 were positively correlated with soil water-filled pore space (WFPS) across all sampling sites (Fig. S6). This positive relationship indicates that the anoxia under high soil moisture conditions stimulates CH₄ emissions, while inhibiting aerobic CH₄ uptake and CO₂ emissions. Nevertheless, increases in soil temperature can alleviate limitations on plant function and the microbial decomposition of SOC. This promotes plant biomass accumulation, autotrophic and heterotrophic respiration and, thus, ecosystem respiration (i.e., ER-CO₂ emissions).

415 Across all the 56 sampling sites, our results showed that soil temperature was the dominant factor influencing the spatial variability in cumulative ER-CO₂ emissions, with a particularly strong effect in sites around artificial ponds. Furthermore, the RF model confirmed this pattern of CO₂ emissions across the landscape. That is, ER-CO₂ hotspots were concentrated around artificial ponds where grass heights were higher. As previously mentioned, elevated soil temperatures stimulate greater ER-CO₂ emissions by promoting vegetation growth under unlimited soil water conditions. These results
420 suggest that future work should focus on integrating biomass estimates from remote sensing (Hoyos-Santillan et al., 2025). This could serve as an alternative to grass-height measurements, which are currently limited to sampling sites. In other words, integrating remote sensing of vegetation dynamics with gas flux monitoring could provide a scalable method of linking plant phenology with ER-CO₂ emission variability in urban green spaces.

4.4 Implications for future studies in urban green spaces

425 In this study, we view the RF model as a complement, rather than a replacement for empirical methods. For example, in this study, the RF model helped identify the combined effects of multiple factors, such as SOC for N₂O, soil temperature for CH₄ and clay content for CO₂, which were not always significant in empirical regressions. Combining these two approaches is especially valuable in the context of urban GHG flux budgets, where spatial heterogeneity and temporal variability complicate the process of upscaling and extrapolating from limited site measurements. This integration allows for more precise
430 evaluations of the contribution of urban green spaces to city-scale GHG fluxes.

Practically speaking, city managers and policymakers could use these predictive frameworks to identify "hotspot-prone" zones in urban parks. They could then direct targeted interventions to these zones rather than treating green spaces as

homogeneous units. This approach may increase the efficiency of climate mitigation actions by allocating management resources to areas where emissions are likely to be most intense. Beyond Aarhus, this framework could be adopted by other cities with similar green space structures, making it a relevant tool for integrating soil GHG fluxes into urban carbon accounting.

5. Conclusions

Despite the rapid urban sprawl occurring around the world, urban green spaces and their biogeochemical carbon and nitrogen cycles are still generally understudied. The limited urban soil GHG flux data available does not accurately reflect spatial and temporal variations in fluxes, resulting in GHG budgets with large uncertainties. This study provides insights into the spatiotemporal variability of soil CH₄ and N₂O fluxes and ecosystem CO₂ emissions in an urban park located in a hilly landscape, based on measurements of the vegetation-growing and frost-free period as well as the freeze-thaw period across the 56 sites that vary in vegetation type and landscape position. On average, our results show that the soils in urban green spaces primarily function as a source of N₂O and a weak sink of CH₄. Moreover, our observations confirm significant temporal and spatial variations in soil CH₄ and N₂O fluxes and ecosystem CO₂ emissions. This high variability is strongly related to changes in environmental and landscape parameters such as vegetation structure, soil hydrothermal conditions, pH and the availability of carbon and nitrogen. These findings underscore the necessity of additional measurement campaigns in urban green spaces. These campaigns should have an experimental design that allows for large spatial coverage and a high temporal sampling frequency when determining soil fluxes. Based on our comprehensive observed datasets, however, we developed RF models to predict the probability of GHG hot spots and/or cold spots. While model performance varied depending on trace gas and driver complexity, the RF approach effectively captured the spatial heterogeneity and provided a scalable framework for mapping GHG fluxes across urban green spaces. Overall, our findings may allow for better scaling of GHG fluxes in urban green spaces and enable a more accurate assessment of how urbanization changes landscape fluxes.

Author contribution. XB conducted the greenhouse gas, soil temperature, and soil moisture measurements, analyzed the data, and wrote the manuscript. TC measured soil pH, performed data analysis, conducted the machine learning part, and prepared Figure 1. JS assisted TC with the machine learning analysis, contributed to figure preparation (including Figure 3), and co-wrote the manuscript. KBB reviewed and edited the manuscript. ZSY contributed to data analysis, writing, and manuscript revision.

Code/Data availability. Code will be made available upon request, and all data are available from the corresponding author upon request.

Competing interests. The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Acknowledgments. We thank our technicians Lars Norge Andreassen and Joakim Voltelen Klausen for their help with the measurements and running the equipment. XB acknowledges support from the China Scholarship Council.

Financial support. This research has been supported by “Pioneer Center for Research in Sustainable Agricultural Futures” (Land-CRAFT), DNRF grant number P2, Aarhus University, Denmark.

References

- Adhikari, K., Hartemink, A. E., Minasny, B., Bou Kheir, R., Greve, M. B., and Greve, M. H.: Digital mapping of soil organic carbon contents and stocks in Denmark, PLoS ONE, 9, e105519, <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0105519>, 2014.
- Alletto, L. and Coquet, Y.: Temporal and spatial variability of soil bulk density and near-saturated hydraulic conductivity under two contrasted tillage management systems, Geoderma, 152, 85–94, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoderma.2009.05.023>, 2009.
- Barczyk, L., Six, J., and Ammann, C.: Partitioning and driver analysis of eddy covariance derived N₂O emissions from a grazed and fertilized pasture, Agric. For. Meteorol., 359, 110278, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.agrformet.2024.110278>, 2024.
- Best, E. K.: An automated method for determining nitrate-nitrogen in soil extracts, Qld. J. Agric. Anim. Sci., 33, 161–166, 1976.
- Bezyk, Y., Dorodnikov, M., Górka, M., Sówka, I., and Sawiński, T.: Temperature and soil moisture control CO₂ flux and CH₄ oxidation in urban ecosystems, Geochem., 83, 125989, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemer.2023.125989>, 2023.
- Bezyk, Y., Sówka, I., Górka, M., and Nęcki, J.: Spatial and temporal patterns of methane uptake in the urban environment, Urban Clim., 41, 101073, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.uclim.2021.101073>, 2022.
- Braun, R. C. and Bremer, D. T.: Nitrous oxide emissions from turfgrass receiving different irrigation amounts and nitrogen fertilizer forms, Crop Sci., 58, 1762–1775, <https://doi.org/10.2135/cropsci2017.11.0688>, 2018.
- Butterbach-Bahl, K., Baggs, E. M., Dannenmann, M., Kiese, R., and Zechmeister-Boltenstern, S.: Nitrous oxide emissions from soils: how well do we understand the processes and their controls?, Philos. Trans. R. Soc. Lond. B Biol. Sci., 368, 20130122, <https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2013.0122>, 2013.
- Butterbach-Bahl, K., Rothe, A., and Papen, H.: Effect of tree distance on N₂O and CH₄ fluxes from soils in temperate forest ecosystems, Plant Soil, 240, 91–103, <https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1015828701885>, 2002.
- Cardinali, M., Beenackers, M. A., Fleury-Bahi, G., Bodéan, P., Petrova, M. T., van Timmeren, A., and Pottgiesser, U.: Examining green space characteristics for social cohesion and mental health outcomes: A sensitivity analysis in four European cities, Urban For. Urban Green., 93, 128230, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ufug.2024.128230>, 2024.
- Chen, W., Jia, X., Zha, T., Wu, B., Zhang, Y., Li, C., Wang, X., He, G., Yu, H., and Chen, G.: Soil respiration in a mixed urban forest in China in relation to soil temperature and water content, Eur. J. Soil Biol., 54, 63–68, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejsobi.2012.10.001>, 2013.
- Chen, Y., Day, S. D., Shrestha, R. K., Strahm, B. D., and Wiseman, P. E.: Influence of urban land development and soil rehabilitation on soil–atmosphere greenhouse gas fluxes, Geoderma, 226–227, 348–353, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoderma.2014.03.017>, 2014.

- Chen, Y., Han, M., Qin, W., Hou, Y., Zhang, Z., and Zhu, B.: Effects of whole-soil warming on CH₄ and N₂O fluxes in an alpine grassland, *Glob. Change Biol.*, 30, e17033, <https://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.17033>, 2023.
- Conrad, R.: Soil microorganisms as controllers of atmospheric trace gases (H₂, CO, CH₄, OCS, N₂O, and NO), *Microbiol. Rev.*, 60, 609–640, <https://doi.org/10.1128/mr.60.4.609-640.1996>, 1996.
- 500 Crooke, W. M. and Simpson, W. E.: Determination of ammonium in Kjeldahl digests of crops by an automated procedure, *J. Sci. Food Agric.*, 22, 9–10, 1971.
- Czóbel, S., Horváth, L., Szirmai, O., Balogh, J., Pintér, K., Németh, Z., Ürmös, Zs., Grosz, B., and Tuba, Z.: Comparison of N₂O and CH₄ fluxes from Pannonian natural ecosystems, *Eur. J. Soil Sci.*, 61, 671–682, <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2389.2010.01275.x>, 2010.
- 505 Čuhel, J., Šimek, M., Laughlin, R. J., Bru, D., Chèneby, D., Watson, C. J., and Philippot, L.: Insights into the effect of soil pH on N₂O and N₂ emissions and denitrifier community size and activity, *Appl. Environ. Microbiol.*, 76, 1870–1878, <https://doi.org/10.1128/AEM.02484-09>, 2010.
- Daelman, R., Bauters, M., Barthel, M., Bulonza, E., Lefevre, L., Mbifo, J., Six, J., Butterbach-Bahl, K., Wolf, B., Kiese, R., and Boeckx, P.: Spatiotemporal variability of CO₂, N₂O and CH₄ fluxes from a semi-deciduous tropical forest soil in the Congo
- 510 Basin, *Biogeosciences*, 22, 1529–1542, <https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-22-1529-2025>, 2025.
- Danish Meteorological Institute: <https://www.dmi.dk/lokationarkiv/show/DK/2624652/Aarhus/#arkiv>, last access: 05 March 2025.
- Davis, M. P., David, M. B., Voigt, T. B., and Mitchell, C. A.: Effect of nitrogen addition on *Miscanthus × giganteus* yield, nitrogen losses, and soil organic matter across five sites, *Glob. Change Biol. Bioenergy*, 7, 1222–1231, <https://doi.org/10.1111/gcbb.12217>, 2015.
- 515 De Bruijn, A. M. G., Butterbach-Bahl, K., Blagodatsky, S., and Grote, R.: Model evaluation of different mechanisms driving freeze–thaw N₂O emissions, *Agric. Ecosyst. Environ.*, 133, 196–207, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.agee.2009.04.023>, 2009.
- Ding, W., Meng, L., Yin, Y., Cai, Z., and Zheng, X.: CO₂ emission in an intensively cultivated loam as affected by long-term application of organic manure and nitrogen fertilizer, *Soil Biol. Biochem.*, 39, 669–679, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.soilbio.2006.09.024>, 2007.
- 520 Edmondson, J., Stott, I., Davies, Z., Gaston, K. J., and Leake, J. R.: Soil surface temperatures reveal moderation of the urban heat island effect by trees and shrubs, *Sci. Rep.*, 6, 33708, <https://doi.org/10.1038/srep33708>, 2016.
- Feng, Z., Wang, L., Wan, X., Yang, J., Peng, Q., Liang, T., Wang, Y., Zhong, B., and Rinklebe, J.: Responses of soil greenhouse gas emissions to land use conversion and reversion – a global meta-analysis, *Glob. Change Biol.*, 28, 6665–6678, <https://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.16370>, 2022.
- 525 Gao, H., Tian, H., Zhang, Z., and Xia, X.: Warming-induced greenhouse gas fluxes from global croplands modified by agricultural practices: A meta-analysis, *Sci. Total Environ.*, 820, 153288, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2022.153288>, 2022.

- Gao, J. and O'Neill, B. C.: Mapping global urban land for the 21st century with data-driven simulations and Shared Socioeconomic Pathways, *Nat. Commun.*, 11, 2302, <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-020-15788-7>, 2020.
- Giannico, V., Spano, G., Elia, M., D'Este, M., Sanesi, G., and Laforteza, R.: Green spaces, quality of life, and citizen perception in European cities, *Environ. Res.*, 196, 110922, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envres.2021.110922>, 2021.
- Goldman, M. B., Groffman, P. M., Pouyat, R. V., McDonnell, M. J., and Pickett, S. T. A.: CH₄ uptake and N availability in forest soils along an urban to rural gradient, *Soil Biol. Biochem.*, 27, 281-286, [https://doi.org/10.1016/0038-0717\(94\)00185-4](https://doi.org/10.1016/0038-0717(94)00185-4), 1995.
- Groffman, P. M. and Pouyat, R. V.: Methane uptake in urban forests and lawns, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 43, 5229–5235, <https://doi.org/10.1021/es803720h>, 2009.
- Groffman, P. M., Pouyat, R. V., Cadenasso, M. L., Zipperer, W. C., Szlavecz, K., Yesilonis, I. D., Band, L. E., and Brush, G. S.: Land use context and natural soil controls on plant community composition and soil nitrogen and carbon dynamics in urban and rural forests, *For. Ecol. Manage.*, 236, 177–192, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foreco.2006.09.002>, 2006.
- Groffman, P. M., Williams, C. O., Pouyat, R. V., Band, L. E., and Yesilonis, I. D.: Nitrate leaching and nitrous oxide flux in urban forests and grasslands, *J. Environ. Qual.*, 38, 1848–1860, <https://doi.org/10.2134/jeq2008.0521>, 2009.
- Guo, Y., Dong, Y., Peng, Q., Li, Z., He, Y., Yan, Z., and Qin, S.: Effects of nitrogen and water addition on N₂O emissions in temperate grasslands, northern China, *Appl. Soil Ecol.*, 177, 104548, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apsoil.2022.104548>, 2022.
- Hao, Y., Mao, J., Bachmann, C. M., Hoffman, F. M., Koren, G., Chen, H., Tian, H., Liu, J., Tao, J., Tang, J., Li, L., Liu, L., Apple, M., Shi, M., Jin, M., Zhu, Q., Kannenberg, S., Shi, X., Zhang, X., Wang, Y., Fang, Y., and Dai, Y.: Soil moisture controls over carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas emissions: a review, *NPJ Clim. Atmos. Sci.*, 8, 16, <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41612-024-00888-8>, 2025.
- Helfenstein, A., Mulder, V. L., Hack-ten Broeke, M. J. D., van Doorn, M., Teuling, K., Walvoort, D. J. J., and Heuvelink, G. B. M.: BIS-4D: mapping soil properties and their uncertainties at 25 m resolution in the Netherlands, *Earth Syst. Sci. Data*, 16, 2941–2970, <https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-16-2941-2024>, 2024.
- Hensen, A., Skiba, U., and Famulari, D.: Low cost and state of the art methods to measure nitrous oxide emissions, *Environ. Res. Lett.*, 8, 025022, <https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/8/2/025022>, 2013.
- Hoyos-Santillan, J., Miranda, A., Chavarria, J., Hormazabal, C., Mola-Yudego, B., and González-Mahecha, E.: Plot- and landscape-level estimates of tree biomass and carbon stocks in Panama's mangrove Important Bird Areas, *Sci. Data*, 12, 1016, <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-025-05354-5>, 2025.
- IPCC: Anthropogenic and natural radiative forcing, *Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*, edited by: Stocker, T. F., Qin, D., Plattner, G. K., Tignor, M., Allen, S. K., Boschung, J., and Midgley, P. M., Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, 659–740, <https://doi.org/10.1017/CBO9781107415324.004>, 2013.
- IPCC: Global carbon and other biogeochemical cycles and feedbacks, *Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*, edited

- by: Masson-Delmotte, V., Zhai, P., Pirani, A., Connors, S. L., Péan, C., Berger, S., Caud, N., Chen, Y., Goldfarb, L., Gomis, M. I., Huang, M., Leitzell, K., Lonnoy, E., Matthews, J. B. R., Maycock, T. K., Waterfield, T., Yelekçi, O., Yu, R., and Zhou, B., Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, doi:10.1017/9781009157896, 2021.
- 565 Jabbar, M., Yusoff, M. M., and Shafie, A.: Assessing the role of urban green spaces for human well-being: a systematic review, *GeoJournal*, 87, 4405–4423, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10708-021-10474-7>, 2022.
- Jeong, M., Bae, J., and Yoo, G.: Urban roadside greenery as a carbon sink: systematic assessment considering understory shrubs and soil respiration, *Sci. Total Environ.*, 927, 172286, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2024.172286>, 2024.
- 570 Kaiser, K. E., McGlynn, B. L., and Dore, J. E.: Landscape analysis of soil methane flux across complex terrain, *Biogeosciences*, 15, 3143–3167, <https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-15-3143-2018>, 2018.
- Karvinen, E., Backman, L., Järvi, L., and Kulmala, L.: Soil respiration across a variety of tree-covered urban green spaces in Helsinki, Finland, *SOIL*, 10, 381–406, <https://doi.org/10.5194/soil-10-381-2024>, 2024.
- Kaye, J. P., Burke, I. C., Mosier, A. R., and Guerschman, J. P.: Methane and nitrous oxide fluxes from urban soils to the atmosphere, *Ecol. Appl.*, 14, 975–981, 2004.
- 575 Kaye, J. P., Groffman, P. M., Grimm, N. B., Baker, L. A., and Pouyat, R. V.: A distinct urban biogeochemistry?, *Trends Ecol. Evol.*, 21, 192–199, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tree.2005.12.006>, 2006.
- Keiluweit, M., Wanzek, T., Kleber, M., Nico, P. S., and Fendorf, S.: Anaerobic microsites have an unaccounted role in soil carbon stabilization, *Nat. Commun.*, 8, 1771, <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-017-01406-6>, 2017.
- 580 Kiese, R., Hewett, B., Graham, A., and Butterbach-Bahl, K.: Seasonal variability of N₂O emissions and CH₄ uptake by tropical rainforest soils of Queensland, Australia, *Glob. Biogeochem. Cycles*, 17, 1043, <https://doi.org/10.1029/2002GB002014>, 2003.
- Knowles, R.: Denitrification, *Microbiol. Rev.*, 46, 43–70, <https://doi.org/10.1128/mr.46.1.43-70.1982>, 1982.
- Künnemann, T., Cannavo, P., Guérin, V., and Guénon, R.: Soil CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O fluxes in open lawns, treed lawns and urban woodlands in Angers, France, *Urban Ecosyst.*, 26, 1659–1672, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11252-023-01407-y>, 2023.
- 585 LeMonte, J. J., Jolley, V. D., Summerhays, J. S., Terry, R. E., and Hopkins, B. G.: Polymer coated urea in turfgrass maintains vigor and mitigates nitrogen's environmental impacts, *PLoS ONE*, 11, e0146761, <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0146761>, 2016.
- Liu, H., Miao, Y., Chen, Y., Shen, Y., You, Y., Wang, Z., and Gang, C.: Responses of soil greenhouse gas fluxes to land management in forests and grasslands: a global meta-analysis, *Sci. Total Environ.*, 967, 178773, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2025.178773>, 2025.
- 590 Liu, L., Estiarte, M., and Peñuelas, J.: Soil moisture as the key factor of atmospheric CH₄ uptake in forest soils under environmental change, *Geoderma*, 355, 113920, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoderma.2019.113920>, 2019.
- Livesley, S. J., Dougherty, B. J., Smith, A. J., Navaud, D., Wylie, L. J., and Arndt, S. K.: Soil–atmosphere exchange of carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide in urban garden systems: impact of irrigation, fertiliser and mulch, *Urban Ecosyst.*, 13, 273–293, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11252-009-0119-6>, 2010.
- 595

- Luo, G. J., Kiese, R., Wolf, B., and Butterbach-Bahl, K.: Effects of soil temperature and moisture on methane uptake and nitrous oxide emissions across three different ecosystem types, *Biogeosciences*, 10, 3205–3219, <https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-10-3205-2013>, 2013.
- Ma, W., Li, G., Wu, J., Xu, G., and Wu, J.: Respiration and CH₄ fluxes in Tibetan peatlands are influenced by vegetation degradation, *Catena*, 195, 104789, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.catena.2020.104789>, 2020.
- 600 Maggiotto, S. R., Webb, J. A., Wagner-Riddle, C., and Thurtell, G. W.: Nitrous and nitrogen oxide emissions from turfgrass receiving different forms of nitrogen fertilizer, *J. Environ. Qual.*, 29, 621–630, <https://doi.org/10.2134/jeq2000.00472425002900020033x>, 2000.
- McArdle, B. H.: The structural relationship: regression in biology, *Can. J. Zool.*, 66, 2329–2339, [https://doi.org/10.1139/z88-](https://doi.org/10.1139/z88-605)
- 605 348, 1988.
- McLain, J. E. T. and Ahmann, D. M.: Increased moisture and methanogenesis contribute to reduced methane oxidation in elevated CO₂ soils, *Biol. Fertil. Soils*, 44, 623–631, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00374-007-0246-2>, 2008.
- Ni, X., and Groffman, P. M.: Declines in methane uptake in forest soils, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.*, 115, 8587–8590, <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1807377115>, 2018.
- 610 Nyang'au, J. O., Sørensen, P., and Møller, H. B.: Nitrogen availability in digestates from full-scale biogas plants following soil application as affected by operation parameters and input feedstocks, *Bioresour. Technol. Rep.*, 24, 101675, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biteb.2023.101675>, 2023.
- Olefeldt, D., Turetsky, M. R., Crill, P. M., and McGuire, A. D.: Environmental and physical controls on northern terrestrial methane emissions across permafrost zones, *Glob. Change Biol.*, 19, 589–603, <https://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.12071>, 2013.
- 615 Pan, B., Qian, Z., Xu, Z., Yang, J., Tao, B., Sun, X., Xu, X., Yu, Y., Wang, J., and Tao, X.: Edaphic factors mediate the responses of forest soil respiration and its components to nitrogen deposition along an urban–rural gradient, *Sci. Total Environ.*, 946, 174423, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2024.174423>, 2024.
- Pedersen, A. S., Petersen, K. S., and Jensen, T. F.: *Jordartskort over Danmark (Midtjylland)* [Soil Map of Denmark (Centre Part)], Danmarks Geol. Unders., Miljøministeriet, 1989.
- 620 Potter, C. S., Davidson, E. A., and Verchot, L. V.: Estimation of global biogeochemical controls and seasonality in soil methane consumption, *Chemosphere*, 32, 2219–2246, [https://doi.org/10.1016/0045-6535\(96\)00119-1](https://doi.org/10.1016/0045-6535(96)00119-1), 1996.
- Poulsen, A. H., Sørensen, M., Hvidtfeldt, U. A., Ketzler, M., Christensen, J. H., Brandt, J., Frohn, L. M., Massling, A., Khan, J., Münzel, T., and Raaschou-Nielsen, O.: Concomitant exposure to air pollution, green space and noise, and risk of myocardial infarction: a cohort study from Denmark, *Eur. J. Prev. Cardiol.*, 31, 131–141, <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurjpc/zwad306>, 2024.
- 625 Praeg, N., Wagner, A. O., and Illmer, P.: Effects of fertilisation, temperature and water content on microbial properties and methane production and methane oxidation in subalpine soils, *Eur. J. Soil Biol.*, 65, 96–106, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejsobi.2014.10.002>, 2014.
- Ravishankara, A. R., Daniel, J. S., and Portmann, R. W.: Nitrous oxide (N₂O): the dominant ozone-depleting substance emitted in the 21st century, *Science*, 326, 123–125, <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1176985>, 2009.

- 630 Riches, D., Porter, I., Dingle, G., Gendall, A., and Grover, S.: Soil greenhouse gas emissions from Australian sports fields, *Sci. Total Environ.*, 707, 134420, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2019.134420>, 2020.
- Saha, D., Basso, B., and Robertson, G. P.: Machine learning improves predictions of agricultural nitrous oxide (N₂O) emissions from intensively managed cropping systems, *Environ. Res. Lett.*, 16, 024004, <https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/abd2f3>, 2021.
- Schjøning, P., Lamandé, M., De Pue, J., Cornelis, W. M., Labouriau, R., and Keller, T.: The challenge in estimating soil
635 compressive strength for use in risk assessment of soil compaction in field traffic, in: *Advances in Agronomy*, edited by: Sparks, D. L., Academic Press, 178, 61–105, <https://doi.org/10.1016/bs.agron.2022.11.003>, 2023.
- Schofield, R. K. and Taylor, A. W.: The measurement of soil pH, *Soil Sci. Soc. Am. J.*, 19, 164–167, <https://doi.org/10.2136/sssaj1955.03615995001900020013x>, 1955.
- Semeraro, T., Scarano, A., Buccolieri, R., Santino, A., and Aarveaara, E.: Planning of urban green spaces: an ecological
640 perspective on human benefits, *Land*, 10, 105, <https://doi.org/10.3390/land10020105>, 2021.
- Šimek, M. and Cooper, J. E.: The influence of soil pH on denitrification: progress towards the understanding of this interaction over the last 50 years, *Eur. J. Soil Sci.*, 53, 345–354, <https://doi.org/10.1046/j.1365-2389.2002.00461.x>, 2002.
- Smith, K. A., Ball, T., Conen, F., Dobbie, K. E., Massheder, J., and Rey, A.: Exchange of greenhouse gases between soil and atmosphere: interactions of soil physical factors and biological processes, *Eur. J. Soil Sci.*, 69, 10–20,
645 <https://doi.org/10.1111/ejss.12539>, 2018.
- Statistics Denmark: Table BEF44: population of Odense per January 1, 2012, <https://www.statistikbanken.dk/BEF44>, last access: 10 May 2025.
- Stefaner, K., Ghosh, S., Mohd Yusof, M. L., Ibrahim, H., Leitgeb, E., Schindlbacher, A., and Kitzler, B.: Soil greenhouse gas fluxes from a humid tropical forest and differently managed urban parkland in Singapore, *Sci. Total Environ.*, 786, 147305,
650 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2021.147305>, 2021.
- Steinkamp, R., Butterbach-Bahl, K., and Papen, H.: Methane oxidation by soils of an N limited and N fertilized spruce forest in the Black Forest, Germany, *Soil Biol. Biochem.*, 33, 145–153, [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0038-0717\(00\)00124-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0038-0717(00)00124-3), 2001.
- Trémeau, J., Olascoaga, B., Backman, L., Karvinen, E., Vekuri, H., and Kulmala, L.: Lawns and meadows in urban green space – a comparison from perspectives of greenhouse gases, drought resilience and plant functional types, *Biogeosciences*,
655 21, 949–972, <https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-21-949-2024>, 2024.
- van Delden, L., Rowlings, D. W., Scheer, C., and Grace, P. R.: Urbanisation-related land use change from forest and pasture into turf grass modifies soil nitrogen cycling and increases N₂O emissions, *Biogeosciences*, 13, 6095–6106, <https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-13-6095-2016>, 2016.
- van Delden, L., Rowlings, D. W., Scheer, C., De Rosa, D., and Grace, P. R.: Effect of urbanization on soil methane and nitrous
660 oxide fluxes in subtropical Australia, *Glob. Change Biol.*, 24, 5695–5707, <https://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.14444>, 2018.
- Vasenev, V. and Kuzyakov, Y.: Urban soils as hot spots of anthropogenic carbon accumulation: review of stocks, mechanisms and driving factors, *Land Degrad. Dev.*, 29, 1607–1622, <https://doi.org/10.1002/ldr.2944>, 2018.

- Wagner-Riddle, C., Congreves, K. A., Abalos, D., Berg, A. A., Brown, S. E., Ambadan, J. T., Gao, X., and Tenuta, M.: Globally important nitrous oxide emissions from croplands induced by freeze–thaw cycles, *Nat. Geosci.*, 10, 279–283, <https://doi.org/10.1038/ngeo2907>, 2017.
- 665 Walkiewicz, A., Bulak, P., Khalil, M. I., and others: Assessment of soil CO₂, CH₄, and N₂O fluxes and their drivers, and their contribution to the climate change mitigation potential of forest soils in the Lublin region of Poland, *Eur. J. For. Res.*, 144, 29–52, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10342-024-01739-0>, 2025.
- Wang, H., Li, Y., Zhang, J., Zhang, T., Wang, Y., and Li, F. Y.: Moderate grazing reduces while mowing increases greenhouse gas emissions from a steppe grassland: key modulating function played by plant standing biomass, *J. Environ. Manage.*, 374, 124142, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvman.2025.124142>, 2025.
- 670 Wangari, E. G., Mwanake, R. M., Houska, T., Kraus, D., Gettel, G. M., Kiese, R., Breuer, L., and Butterbach-Bahl, K.: Identifying landscape hot and cold spots of soil greenhouse gas fluxes by combining field measurements and remote sensing data, *Biogeosciences*, 20, 5029–5067, <https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-20-5029-2023>, 2023.
- 675 Wangari, E. G., Mwanake, R. M., Kraus, D., Werner, C., Gettel, G. M., Kiese, R., and others: Number of chamber measurement locations for accurate quantification of landscape-scale greenhouse gas fluxes: importance of land use, seasonality, and greenhouse gas type, *J. Geophys. Res.-Biogeosci.*, 127, e2022JG006901, <https://doi.org/10.1029/2022JG006901>, 2022.
- West, A. E., Brooks, P. D., Fisk, M. C., Smith, L. K., Holland, E. A., Jaeger, C. H. III, Babcock, S., Lai, R. S., and Schmidt, S. K.: Landscape patterns of CH₄ fluxes in an alpine tundra ecosystem, *Biogeochemistry*, 45, 243–264, <https://doi.org/10.1007/BF00993002>, 1999.
- 680 Xu, X., Liu, Y., Singh, B. P., Yang, Q., Zhang, Q., Wang, H., Xia, Z., Di, H., Singh, B. K., Xu, J., and Li, Y.: NosZ clade II rather than clade I determine in situ N₂O emissions with different fertilizer types under simulated climate change and its legacy, *Soil Biol. Biochem.*, 150, 107974, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.soilbio.2020.107974>, 2020.
- Yao, Z., Zheng, X., Wang, R., and others: Greenhouse gas fluxes and NO release from a Chinese subtropical rice–winter wheat rotation system under nitrogen fertilizer management, *J. Geophys. Res.-Biogeosci.*, 118, 623–638, <https://doi.org/10.1002/jgrg.20061>, 2013.
- 685 Yao, Z., Zheng, X., Xie, B., Liu, C., Mei, B., Dong, H., Butterbach-Bahl, K., and Zhu, J.: Comparison of manual and automated chambers for field measurements of N₂O, CH₄, and CO₂ fluxes from cultivated land, *Atmos. Environ.*, 43, 1888–1896, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.atmosenv.2008.12.031>, 2009.
- 690 Ying, Q., Poulter, B., Watts, J. D., Arndt, K. A., Virkkala, A.-M., Bruhwiler, L., Oh, Y., Rogers, B. M., Natali, S. M., Sullivan, H., Armstrong, A., Ward, E. J., Schiferl, L. D., Elder, C. D., Peltola, O., Bartsch, A., Desai, A. R., Euskirchen, E., Göckede, M., Lehner, B., Nilsson, M. B., Peichl, M., Sonnentag, O., Tuittila, E.-S., Sachs, T., Kalhori, A., Ueyama, M., and Zhang, Z.: WetCH₄: a machine-learning-based upscaling of methane fluxes of northern wetlands during 2016–2022, *Earth Syst. Sci. Data*, 17, 2507–2534, <https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-17-2507-2025>, 2025.
- 695 Yu, L., Zhu, J., Zhang, X., Wang, Z., Dörsch, P., and Mulder, J.: Humid subtropical forests constitute a net methane source: a catchment-scale study, *J. Geophys. Res.-Biogeosci.*, 124, 2927–2942, <https://doi.org/10.1029/2019JG005210>, 2019.

- Zhan, Y., Yao, Z., Groffman, P. M., Xie, J., Wang, Y., Li, G., Zheng, X., and Butterbach-Bahl, K.: Urbanization can accelerate climate change by increasing soil N₂O emission while reducing CH₄ uptake, *Glob. Change Biol.*, 29, 3489–3502, <https://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.16652>, 2023.
- 700 Zhang, W., Wang, K., Luo, Y., Fang, Y., Yan, J., Zhang, T., Zhu, X., Chen, H., Wang, W., and Mo, J.: Methane uptake in forest soils along an urban-to-rural gradient in Pearl River Delta, South China, *Sci. Rep.*, 4, 5120, <https://doi.org/10.1038/srep05120>, 2014.
- Zhang, M., Weng, S., Gao, H., Liu, L., Li, J., and Zhou, X.: Urbanization degree rather than methanotrophic abundance decreases soil CH₄ uptake, *Geoderma*, 404, 115368, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoderma.2021.115368>, 2021.
- 705 Zhao, B. and Zhuang, Q.: Nitrogen cycling feedback on carbon dynamics leads to greater CH₄ emissions and weaker cooling effect of northern peatlands, *Glob. Biogeochem. Cycles*, 38, e2023GB007978, <https://doi.org/10.1029/2023GB007978>, 2024.